

THE DESOTO COUNTY NEWS.

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COMMERCIAL LEAGUE

OF THE DESOTO COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL HAS BEEN REORGANIZED WITH RE-NEWED INTEREST. THE LEAGUE HAS A BOARD OF FIFTEEN GOVERNORS, FIVE FROM THE SENIOR CLASS, FOUR FROM THE JUNIOR, THREE FROM THE SOPHOMORE, TWO FROM THE FRESHMEN, AND ONE FROM THE EIGHTH GRADE. MAR SHALL DANCY IS PRESIDENT, ALGER SMART, SECRETARY, AND ORVILLE BERG, TREASURER.

The Commercial League of the DeSoto County High School, which did so many things in the interest of the school and the city in general last year, has been reorganized under most favorable circumstances, and it is expected that this club will do even more outside work this school term than before.

The officers elected are: Marshall Dancy, president; Alger Smart, secretary, and Orville Berg, treasurer. These officers will be assisted by a board of governors consisting of fifteen members, whose duties are of an advisory nature. Five of these members are selected from the senior class, four from the junior class, three from the sophomore class, two from the freshman class, and one from the eighth grade, thus giving representation and making a personal interest on behalf of all the advanced classes.

When the State Teachers' Association meets here Christmas week these young people will have charge of all arrangements for their entertainment at the school building. This insures from the beginning that all strangers will feel at home from the time of their arrival until they leave.

Knowing these young people as we do, we are confidently expecting that they will do much towards better advertising this city and community during the present year. Young people, whenever the News can be of service to you, command us! We are with you heart and soul in all your undertakings, for we know all your efforts will be along lines that will meet our approval. Should they not be, we shall frankly tell you so—privately.

WORKING ON THE BORDER PROBLEM.

New London, Conn., Sept. 13. The American-Mexican joint commission resumed its effort to find a solution for the problems along the international boundary. This was the third joint discussion. Louis Cabrera, chairman of the Mexican delegation, presided. Since their meeting three days ago the American members have devoted much time to a study of government reports on the various phases of the border problem. They entered the meeting prepared to go into a detailed examination of the various plans for border patrol that have been suggested.

They are counting also on the personal knowledge of the situation which Major General Tasker H. Bliss will be able to supply on his arrival from Washington. Before the meeting began Secretary Lane expressed confidence that a constructive plan of action would soon take definite shape. So far there has been nothing more than general mention of the Mexican request that General Pershing's forces be withdrawn from Mexico. The basis of the plans for policing the lines that have been talked over, however, is the return of the American troops to their own territory ensuring that movement as the first step toward establishing a permanent system of protection against border bandits.

H. G. Gates, a prominent realty dealer, left last night for Fort Myers, where he will spend the day looking after business affairs and attending the Central Florida Highway meeting, which is in session there. He will probably return this afternoon.

FURTHER EXTENSION

OF TIME ALLOWED BY THE CENTRAL FLORIDA HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION IN WHICH TO FILE PETITION FOR BONDING DISTRICT NO. 4. SECRETARY GARDNER SAYS EVERYTHING IS HARMONIOUS IN THE CONVENTION, BUT THAT THE PRESENCE OF THE ARCADIA DELEGATION SAVED THE DAY.

Owing to the fact that we have been delayed, unavoidably, in getting up petition for bond issue in District No. 4, there have been some misgivings as to what effect this would have on the Central Florida Highway Association in session at Fort Myers today. The following telegram from Secretary G. S. Gardner, of the Arcadia Commercial Club, however, reassures us in the matter, as the association has unanimously extended the time in view of the fact that petitions were withdrawn due to misunderstandings. The telegram is as follows:

Fort Myers, Fla., Sept. 13.—12:23 p. m.

Daily News, Arcadia, Fla.

Officers and directors of Central Florida Highway Association in session this morning unanimously voted to allow us further extension of time in view of the fact that petition for bond election is being prepared for district No. 4. Arcadia's enthusiastic delegation saved the day. Convention harmonious.

G. S. Gardner.

GOOD ROADS MEETING

AT FORT MYERS ATTRACTING MUCH ATTENTION. SPECIAL TRAIN BRINGS MANY DELEGATES WHILE A DELEGATION OF SOME 20 OR 30 GO DOWN BY WAY OF AUTOS FROM VARIOUS POINTS IN DESOTO COUNTY.

Although the meeting of the Central Florida Highway Association was not scheduled to meet until this morning, delegates began to arrive in goodly numbers yesterday in order to be ready for the opening. The Fort Myers Press commenting on the matter said:

"While the larger part of the delegations from various points throughout the state which will attend the quarterly meeting of the Central Florida Highway Association is expected to arrive in Fort Myers tonight, many good roads boosters reached the city today, a large delegation coming on the noon train, to which was attached a special coach. Other parties arrived throughout the day by auto, the largest, perhaps, being a delegation from Fort Ogden and adjacent DeSoto county points, which numbered between twenty and thirty. Good roads and the many topics of interest relating to highway development throughout Florida formed the chief topic of conversation, and it is expected that with the opening of the principal session of the association tomorrow, Wednesday morning, at the court house practically all available space will be at a premium, and that the meeting will prove one of the most interesting held by the Central Florida organization."

Mr. William B. McCollum, who is under a big contract for an Arcadia concern which has the contract for the plumbing of the Royal Palm Hotel, left last night for Fort Myers, where he will resume his work.

Hon. A. L. Durrance, who is clerk of the county court and a well known citizen of Arcadia, left yesterday afternoon for Tallahassee, where he will stop for several days while transacting business with different people in that city. He will be gone several days.

SUPREME COURT WILL HEAR TESTIMONY BY STATE CANVASSING BOARD IN ITS EFFORTS TO SHOW THERE HAS BEEN FRAUD

IN THE AMENDED RETURNS FROM MADISON AND HAMILTON COUNTIES, AS SET UP IN ITS RETURN TO THE ALTERNATIVE WRIT OF MANDAMUS SERVED UPON IT BY THE SUPREME COURT IN THE CONTEST PROCEEDINGS OF W. V. KNOT. THE TIME SET FOR THE HEARING IS NEXT FRIDAY MORNING.

COURT WILL SIT PRACTICALLY AS JURY

AND HEAR TESTIMONY OF VOTERS FROM THE VARIOUS PRECINCTS. IT IS THOUGHT THAT IT WILL CONSUME MANY WEEKS IN SECURING THE WITNESSES AND PLACING THE TESTIMONY BEFORE THE COURT. SHOULD THE AMENDED RETURNS OF THESE TWO COUNTIES NOT BE CONSIDERED IN THE RECANVASS, SYDNEY J. CATTS WILL BE THE NOMINEE. HENCE THE CASE SEEMS TO HANG ON THIS DECISION OF THE COURT.

Tallahassee, Sept. 13.—Next Friday morning the state supreme court will attempt to establish the proof of its averments of fraud in the amended returns from Madison and Hamilton counties, as set up in its return to the alternative writ of mandamus served upon it by the supreme court in the contest proceedings of W. V. Knott. Counsel for W. V. Knott have filed a paper of issue to the allegation of the state canvassing board in the proceedings in the supreme court, and the matter will be tried on a question of facts as soon as testimony may be taken by the supreme court. The canvassing board will be permitted to summon witnesses, but the case will not be allowed to go back to the circuit courts, and the clerks and inspectors will not be permitted to testify to impeach the returns made by them to writ of mandamus in circuit courts.

The assent on the part of Knott's counsel to the supreme court's direction that the state canvassing board prove its assertions of fraud in Madison and Hamilton counties or to reconvene and recanvass the returns, means a session of the supreme court in which it will sit practically as a jury, and hear the testimony of voters from the various precincts. It is said it may consume many weeks in securing the witnesses and placing the testimony before the tribunal. The canvassing board raised two questions which it should not comply with the alternative writ of mandamus secured on petition of W. V. Knott. It set forth that pursuant to the law they met on June 26 and canvassed the returns, and declared the results, and that there is no authority to meet again and do the work over again. The supreme court dismissed that objection, but considered its second point, the averment that there is evidence of fraud in the amended returns, and directed that the canvassing board should prove its assertion.

According to the figures, with Hamilton and Madison counties thrown out so far as the amended returns are considered, and the recanvass made of the other counties alone, Sidney J. Catts would be the nominee over W. V. Knott, as there is a gain of 225 votes involved in the two counties.

THE PRESS ON THE WAR SITUATION.

It becomes more and more evident that in discussing peace terms the Teutons must talk to themselves.—Providence Journal.

Will the phrase "meet a Waterloo" ever give way to "meet a Verdun"?—Baltimore Star.

The Teutons' failure has been absolute, because all their foes are now on foot, determined and powerful. The last chance to win the war in the field ended for the central powers with the failure before Verdun.—Review of Reviews.

"Deutschland unter alles" is the U-boat motto.—Springfield Republican.

We are inclined to predict that the European struggle will end through lack of a quorum.—Washington Post.

It isn't the fact that England started the war that enrages the kaiser, but the realization that she is going to end it.—Boston Transcript.

The problem is not licking the Russians, but keeping them licked.—New York Evening Sun.

Considerable feeling must have grown up between the Germans and the English in the last two years. We base opinion on the fact that Germany has changed the English name of "golf" to "locherballspiel."—Kansas City Star.

Sheriff Dishong, accompanied by Deputies Garner and Carlton, left this morning for Wauchula and the Wauchula vicinity. They are still probing the case of T. J. Lee, who was murdered there a short while ago.

C. L. Gibbs, a commercial man of Jacksonville, is registered at the Arcadia House.

ARCADIA A FRUIT CENTER.

The city of Arcadia is probably the most important citrus packing center in the state. At least there are seven well equipped packing plants here, with a capacity for handling at least one million boxes of fruit, and we are not informed if any city in the state can make a better showing than this.

All of these houses have shown activities within the past few weeks, making preparation for the coming season's shipment, which will probably not begin for some five or six weeks yet. Much of the fruit will be late, owing to a very late spring bloom.

The crop in DeSoto county will not be as heavy as last year, although it is expected that the fruit will bring a great deal more money than it brought the growers last season. The orange crop will show up very well, both as to quantity and quality, but the grapefruit crop is exceedingly short, many large grapefruit groves having practically no fruit on the trees. The exchange house here, one of the largest and finest in the state, will handle more fruit than it handled last year, according to Manager Carr. Last year's results, the first since its organization, were most satisfactory to all the members and to the management.

This city will probably handle more than a half million boxes of fruit, and as it is expected that this fruit will average at least \$2.00 per box, it will be seen that something like a million dollars will be distributed among the growers of this section.

Messrs. Edwin Will and John Scott and B. Vance composed a party who spent the day on Fish-eating Creek yesterday. They report a fine catch of bass, the weights running from three and one-half to six pounds, and plenty of them.

SENATOR FLETCHER

DECLARES THAT "THE PROPER DEVELOPMENT OF INLAND WATERS IS AS NECESSARY TO THE DEFENSE OF THE COUNTRY AS GUNPOWDER, AND THAT NO APPROPRIATIONS ARE SO SAFEGUARDED AS ARE THOSE FOR RIVERS AND HARBORS."

Philadelphia, Sept. 13.—Prominent speakers at the opening session of the annual convention of the Atlantic Deep Waterways Association here urged the advancement of the plans for a continuous inland waterway from New England to Florida, and denounced those who attack the rivers and harbors appropriations by congress by "pork."

United States Senator Fletcher, of Florida, said that no appropriation is safeguarded as are those for rivers and harbors. He declared that the proper development of the inland waterways was as necessary to the defense of the country as gunpowder.

"Every dollar spent in these projects," said Senator Fletcher, "is spent under the direction of the chief of engineers of the United States army, so where is the foundation for the charge that these appropriations are passed out in return for reciprocal favors by congressmen?"

United States Senator James E. Hoffman, of New Jersey, said that men full in broad minded patriotism when they do not favor the inland waterways projects to promote the commercial interests of the country and also aid in better national defense.

PRESIDENT WILSON

RECEIVES PERSONAL NOTE FROM THE KAISER ANSWERING REPRESENTATIONS MADE ON BEHALF OF POLAND'S STARVING PEOPLE.

Washington, Sept. 13.—A personal note to President Wilson from Emperor William in reply to the president's note regarding relief measures for the starving populace of Poland, arrived at the state department yesterday from American Minister Gerard. It was forwarded to the president without being made public. Replies have already been received by the president from King George and President Poincare, presenting the side of the entente allies that nothing could be done because of Germany's insistence upon feeding her armies upon the products of the farms of Poland.

On the other hand, the German foreign office some time ago informed the state department that because of the British attitude nothing could be gained by further negotiations, and furthermore because of the large Polish crops there was no necessity for importing food.

MRS. J. G. KING ENTERTAINS THE LADIES' GUILD.

Although the afternoon was disagreeable on account of rain, thirty odd members of the Ladies' Guild of the Episcopal church assembled at the home of Mrs. J. G. King. The afternoon was spent on work for the annual bazaar boxes. The business session was taken up chiefly in discussing and laying plans for further activities. A motion was made and carried that a cedar chest be placed in the vestry as a receptacle for the church linen, etc. Mrs. R. Peebles, of Orlando, was present as a visitor and addressed the meeting. Refreshments of ice cream, cake and candy were served by the hostess. The meeting adjourned to meet with Mrs. R. Herndon at the home of Mrs. Timberlake next Tuesday.

B. L. Link, of St. Petersburg, arrived in the city last night, and is a guest at the Arcadia House.

W. C. LANGFORD SEC-TREASURER

OF THE LOCAL FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE STATE DEMOCRATIC CAMPAIGN FUND MAKES AN APPEAL IN BEHALF OF THIS GREAT MOVEMENT. READ WHAT MR. LANGFORD SAYS, AND THEN LET YOUR RESPONSE BE PROMPT AND LIBERAL.

To the Democrats of Arcadia and Vicinity:

As secretary and treasurer of the local financial committee of the National Democratic Party, I am directed to herewith inform the democrats of Arcadia and vicinity that contributions are now in order for the financing of the national democratic campaign. All democrats and democratic sympathizers are most earnestly requested to see the undersigned and make such contributions as the urgency of the times and a spirit of party loyalty may demand.

All sums contributed and the name of the contributor will be forwarded by the secretary and treasurer of the local committee to the national financial committee in New York City, and subsequently a receipt will be issued and mailed to the party making such contribution.

At a later date a committee will call on the democrats of this city and vicinity in person and ask for contributions for this cause, but we would urge that each individual either send or bring the amount to be contributed to the treasurer of the committee so that the same may be reported at the earliest date possible. Naturally it should be a source of consolation to be a volunteer in this great cause.

It should be the pride of every democrat the country over to know that the public generally are those who are paying the campaign expenses of the democratic party so that when our leaders are chosen under such a condition they will be free to render a valid service without fear or favor from the special interests.

Send in your contribution at the earliest date possible, so that the much needed work may have no delay. Make the amount as liberal as possible. If you cannot give but one dollar, all right, but if you can give more it will be appreciated, and we believe your liberal contribution will be a source of great pleasure to you in the present and in the future. Yours truly,

W. C. Langford, Secretary and Treasurer of Local Financial Committee, Arcadia, Fla., Sept. 13, 1916.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

Under the leadership of Rev. Chester Sprague, pastor of the Christian church, the services at the opera house are growing in interest. Last Sunday the audiences at both morning and evening services were larger than they had been, and everybody paid very close attention to both sermons.

Next Sunday morning Mr. Sprague will have as his theme "Saving the Fragments." This will be a special sermon that everybody should hear. You will miss something good if you fail to hear it. The subject for his evening sermon will be "The Model Prayer."

We wish to call attention to the singing, which has greatly improved under the able leadership of Mrs. E. J. Daniel. We urgently invite you to attend all services.

Remember all services are at the opera house. Bible school at 9:45 a. m., followed at 11 o'clock by preaching and communion service. Evening service at 7:30 p. m. Come and bring your friends. d&w

Col. E. D. Treadwell, a prominent lawyer and attorney who is a member of the firm of Treadwell & Treadwell in this city, left yesterday afternoon for Tallahassee, where he will spend several days looking after matters of business. He will return in four or five days.